

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 SSO-00
NSCE-00 SS-15 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2579
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 02935

BUCHAREST FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: WESTERN FIVE BRIEFING OF UN
SECRETARY-GENERAL

1. THE WESTERN FIVE AMBASSADORS AND CHARGES MET WITH
UN SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM AT THEIR OWN REQUEST
LATE FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 14 TO DISCUSS NAMIBIA.
THE SECRETARY GENERAL WAS ACCOMPANIED BY UN COMMISSIONER
FOR NAMIBIA MARTTI AHTISAARI AND AHTISAARI'S ASSISTANT,
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BERNARD MUGANDA. THE MEETING BEGAN WITH A FIRST-HAND
BRIEFING BY AMB MCHENRY ON THE LUANDA TALKS INCLUDING
A DESCRIPTION OF THE FIVE'S POSITION ON WALVIS BAY
AND A PARAPHRASING OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION
ON WALVIS BAY WHICH WE WOULD SUPPORT. AMBASSADOR BARTON
OF CANADA (PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL FOR JULY)
THEN EXPRESSED THE FIVE'S INTENTION THAT HE (BARTON)

BEGIN INDIVIDUAL CONSULTATIONS WITH COUNCIL MEMBERS ON MONDAY, JULY 17 WITH THE HOPE THAT THE FORMAL MEETING OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL COULD BE HELD EARLY IN THE WEEK OF JULY 24.

2. WALDHEIM RESPONDED BY OFFERING HIS CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CONTACT GROUP AND TO THE FIVE AS A WHOLE FOR ACHIEVING AGREEMENT TO THE SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL. HE EXPRESSED HIS APPROVAL OF THE DECISION NOT TO PUSH FOR A SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING UNTIL THE WEEK OF JULY 24, SAYING: "IT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN WISE TO TRY FOR A MEETING BEFORE KHARTOUM". HE ADDED THAT HE WOULD BE AWAY FROM NEW YORK FROM JULY 16 - 24 AND WOULD THEREFORE PREFER THAT THE COUNCIL MEET FROM JULY 25.

3. WALDHEIM THEN STATED THAT HE HAD PLACED AHTISAARI IN CHARGE OF ALL PLANNING FOR A UNITED NATIONS PRESENCE IN NAMIBIA AND THAT THE PLANNING HAD BEGUN. AHTISAARI ADDED THAT HE HOPED TO HAVE A UN SURVEY MISSION VISIT NAMIBIA IN THE PERIOD BETWEEN THE FIRST AND SECOND SECURITY COUNCIL SESSIONS AND EXPRESSED HIS VIEW THAT FOR PLANNING PURPOSES THOSE SESSIONS WOULD HAVE TO BE TWO WEEKS APART.

4. AMB BARTON NOTED IN THIS RESPECT THAT THE CONTACT GROUP HAS BEEN EXPLORING SOME OF THE PROBLEMS AND CONFIDENTIAL

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CONSIDERATIONS INVOLVED IN ORGANIZING THE MILITARY SIDE OF A UN PRESENCE IN NAMIBIA, AND HE STATED THAT WE WOULD SOON HAVE SOME SUGGESTIONS WHICH MIGHT PROVE USEFUL TO THE UN. BARTON THEN ASKED HOW MUCH OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S TEN MILLION DOLLAR EMERGENCY COMMITMENT AUTHORITY WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR IMMEDIATE FINANCING OF A UN OPERATION IN NAMIBIA. BARTON WAS ESPECIALLY CONCERNED THAT MUCH OF THE TEN MILLION DOLLARS HAD ALREADY BEEN SPENT ON UNIFIL. WALDHEIM THEN ASKED UN COMPTROLLER DEBATIN TO JOIN THE MEETING. DEBATIN STATED THAT IN HIS VIEW THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S TEN MILLION DOLLAR AUTHORITY APPLIED TO EACH DECISION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND THEREFORE A FULL TEN MILLION DOLLARS WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR NAMIBIA (SUBJECT TO ACABQ APPROVAL, WHICH HE ASSURED US WOULD BE FORTHCOMING.) THAT AMOUNT, WALDHIEM ESTIMATED, WOULD BE ADEQUATE UNTIL ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION COULD BE OBTAINED FROM THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

5. COMMENT. THE HOUR-LONG MEETING WITH WALDHEIM WAS CORDIAL AND RELAXED. HE SEEMED PLEASED THAT THE

UN WOULD SOON BE MANDATED TO ACT BUT AWARE OF "THE
ENORMOUS UNDERTAKING" AHEAD. WE EXPRESSED OUR DESIRE
TO BE OF WHATEVER ASSISTANCE POSSIBLE, AND WALDHEIM
REPLIED THAT HE WAS COUNTING ON OUR HELP. END COMMENT.
LEONARD

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